



# NEWS RELEASE

**Date:** August 11, 2008 08-039  
**District:** District 2 - Redding  
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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Microwave technology helping travelers

**REDDING** – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 2 has recently constructed a microwave reflector for its closed circuit television network (Traffic Cameras).

Located on Interstate 5 north of Redding, just south of the Fawndale overcrossing, stands what looks like a "billboard" on the hillside. This is actually a microwave reflector or "passive repeater" as it is known in radio circles. This 10' by 16' reflective surface is oriented so that it bounces microwave signals from the Bass Mountain microwave relay near Mountain Gate, to the dish antenna on the Fawndale camera. The passive repeater, one of several planned, will allow wireless access to areas formerly unavailable and increased performance over conventional phone line links at a reduced cost. The link was turned up on July 16 and has been operating flawlessly ever since.

This is part of the Redding Transportation Management Center's field element network and is the first passive repeater for Caltrans statewide.

Ken Beals with Caltrans Office of Intelligent Transportation Systems, Engineering and Support did the microwave transmission design, the Project Engineer was Mike Mogen, Art Robles with Caltrans Traffic Engineering and Operations, performed the electrical design, and the Construction Inspector for the project was Ken Vomaske. The \$78,000 contract was awarded to Schommer and Sons Telecom Group of Portland Oregon,

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**NOTE:** An electronic version of this news release is available on the Internet at the following web address: [www.caltrans2.info](http://www.caltrans2.info)

